

**Washington, Apr 21** - U.S. Congressman Mike Pence released the following statement after attending a briefing and demonstration of Bright Automotive's concept version of a new plug-in hybrid electric vehicle called the IDEA:

**"Eastern Indiana has had a long and proud history in electrical engineering and automotive manufacturing. Bright Automotive's latest concept represents a new generation of technology that is precisely the kind of ingenuity that will carry our nation into a future of energy independence.**

**"While the technology is unprecedented, the willingness of Hoosiers to roll up their sleeves and bring their entrepreneurial ethic to bear on the problems facing our state and nation is simply a continuation of a long Indiana tradition.**

**"I heartily congratulate Bright Automotive CEO John Waters, Flagship Enterprise CEO Chuck Staley and their respective teams on rising to today's challenges with boldness, entrepreneurial creativity and I look forward to more ideas like this from the heartland coming to our nation's capital."**

#### BACKGROUND:

Bright Auto is based at small business incubator Flagship Enterprise Center in Anderson, Indiana in the heart of the 6th Congressional District. Congressman Pence helped start Flagship, a partnership between Anderson University, Purdue University and the City of Anderson which opened in May 2005. This public-private partnership headed by Chuck Staley has helped to start over 55 companies and helped create over 1,200 jobs.

Pictures from today's event are available [HERE](#) .